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CREAM SEPARATORS.

The De Laval Alpha Separator was first patented in 1878. It has since that time been the standard separator for all dairies. It is the only separator that has been tested and approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is the only separator that has been tested and approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is the only separator that has been tested and approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO.
CHICAGO, ILL. 74 CORTLAND STREET, NEW YORK.

FARMERS

THE MAINE FARMER PUBLISHING CO., Publishers and Proprietors.
Vol. LXVI.

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MAINE FARMER.
Z. A. GILBERT, Agricultural Editor.

ALL PLANS IN THE HAY-FIELD THE STATE

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE IS TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE YEAR AT HORTICULTURAL HALL, BOSTON, AUGUST 19TH AND 20TH.

AT THE STRAWBERRY SHOW OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AT BOSTON, THE MARSHALL AND THE CLYDE WERE HIGHEST PRIZES, THE FIRST NAMED LEADING.

SCIENTISTS HAVE DISCOVERED OVER THIRTY SPECIES OF THE POTATO BUG AND IT IS KEPT RIGHT ON EATING ALL THE POTATOES, SO TO COME TO TIME AS THE RETURN OF THE SEASON.

A BULLETIN OF THE MICHIGAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY GIVES THE APPLE CROP OF THAT STATE AS ABOUT EIGHT PER CENT. OF A FULL YIELD. SUMMER AND FALL VARIETIES WILL YIELD FULL CROPS. BALDWIN RUNS FROM HALF AN AVERAGE TO A FULL CROP. PEARS AND PLUMS WILL BE ABUNDANT.

GIVE THE BREEDING HOGS A RUN IN THE PASTURE THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS. IT WILL GIVE THEM HEALTH AND VIGOR. NOTHING WILL EQUAL IT. IN GENERAL PRACTICE AMONG FARMERS IN THIS STATE HOGS AND PIGS ARE KEPT TOO MUCH CONFINED. LET THE SOWS FALLOW IN THE PASTURE AND THEIR PIGS RUN AT LARGE.

NOW THAT HAYING IS ON DO NOT LET ANY OF THE FIELDS OF TURNIPS, CORN OR POTATOES GO UNWEEDED. AFTER DOING ALL THE WEEDING IN THE FIELD, IT IS POOR PRACTICE TO ALLOW A SET-BACK FROM NEGLECT. THE FARMER MUST BE VIGILANT THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.

AT THE LATE ROSE FESTIVAL HELD BY THE STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY PROF. MUNSON MADE A FIELD DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY BECAUSE OF THE GREAT BENEFIT THE SOCIETY WOULD DO THE COLLEGE AND THE COLLEGE THE SOCIETY. THE LISTENER WHO HAD IN MIND A BROADER SCOPE FOR BOTH FELT THAT THE STATE SOCIETY OF THE STATE SHOULD OCCUPY THE MINDS OF ALL. THERE IS NEED OF BROADENING THE HORIZON SOMETIMES.

THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND PREMIUM LIST OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR THEIR FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION ARE AT HAND. THE EXHIBITION IS TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 20-22 AT FRANKLIN PARK, FARMINGTON. NOTWITHSTANDING THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN THE STATE, AND INCREASING IN THE FAVOR OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY EVERY YEAR. ROUTE HATCH, FARMINGTON, SECRETARY.

THIS IS CLOVER WEEK THROUGHOUT ALL THE PARTS OF THE STATE. SOME FIELDS WERE CUT LAST WEEK, BUT THE CLOVER WAS A TRIFLE TOO GREEN AND WAS CUT BEFORE REACHING THE PROPER STAGE OF MATURITY. IT IS A LONG JOB TO GET CLOVER DRY ENOUGH TO STORE WITHOUT INJURY. CLOVER SHOULD NOT BE CUT TILL AFTER THE FIRST EARLY FROST HAS BEGUN TO BROWN. THE FIELDS OF CLOVER ARE A SIGHT TO DELIGHT THE EYE, AND, FINE, AND FILLED WITH SEEDS.

MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES. Yes, but let the sunshine and the heat make the hay. There is no need of tramping everlastingly at work on the brown grass—treading, opening, turning and stirring it. It costs something to run a tedder; neither the boy nor the horse work for nothing. Both of them are wanted hauling hay and unloading at the barn. It costs something, too, to open hay, and to put it in shape again by letting it alone. The sun costs nothing. Plan to have this agency do the drying without any of your help. This all applies to fair weather. How about the rains? No one can make hay in rainy weather.

THE BUTTER SITUATION. The butter markets of the country are still in a condition specially favorable for the business. In the great markets of New York, Boston and Chicago no more butter has gone into the freezers than last year. Trade is brisk and has taken all offerings of extra creamery at a price two weeks past fully two cents a pound higher than last year for the same make. With no oversupply of cream at this time, and the flush of the season already passed, all indications are favorable for a healthy market the summer through.

HOOD'S PILLS cure Liver Ills, Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache, Easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

FRUIT NOTES.

Clean and thorough cultivation of the blackberry patch, beginning as soon as the ground can be worked, is the proper thing to bring about best results.

Juicy fruits give more or less of the higher nerve or brain food, and some such muscle food and waste; no heat.

Any good soil will grow raspberries; a moist, well drained clay loam, not too tight, is perhaps the best.

"A stitch in time" may save the raspberry patch.

A great point, and in fact the principal one, in favor of commercial cherry growing is that the fruit comes into season early, before the markets are glutted or over. Trade is brisk and has taken all offerings of extra creamery at a price two weeks past fully two cents a pound higher than last year for the same make. With no oversupply of cream at this time, and the flush of the season already passed, all indications are favorable for a healthy market the summer through.

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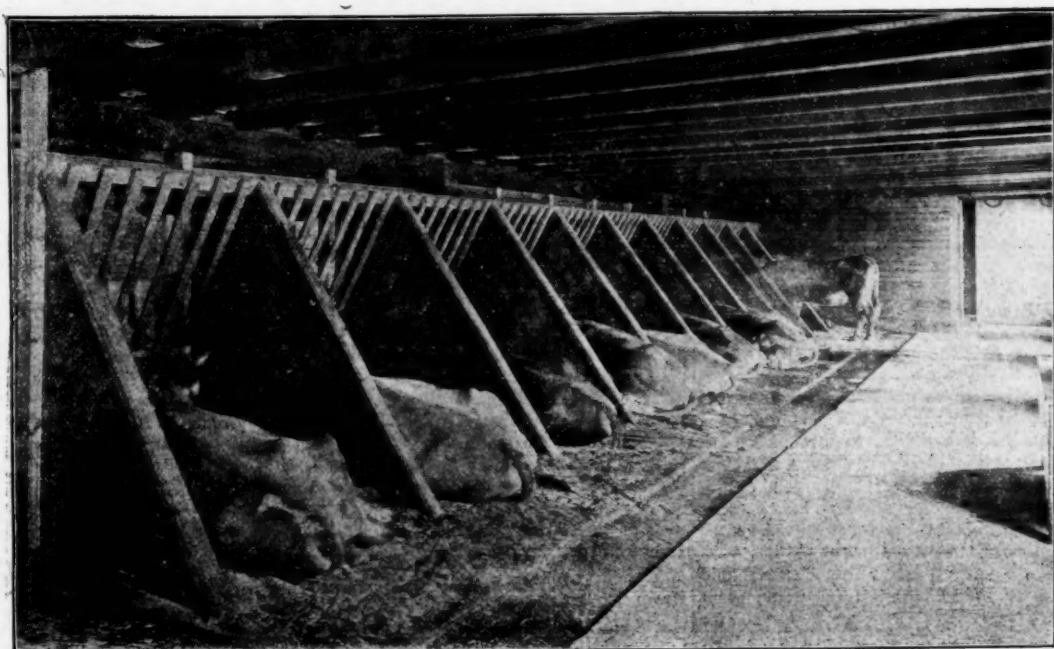
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"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1898.

CLEANLINESS AND COMFORT INSURED.



A Tie-up Showing the Latest Improved Stall for Dairy Cows.

gives a large flow of milk always is a great eater whether she is large or small. Production bears a closer relation to food consumed than mere pounds in weight. Prof. Haeccker goes on to say: "That the cost of maintenance is fairly measured by the size of the animal is true only in a general way. We must always take temperament into account. An animal having a highly developed nervous system would, under certain conditions, require more food for maintenance than would another animal of the same size, under similar conditions, but having a highly developed vital temperament. In the future, temperament and form in the animal will be found to play a more important part than has been generally supposed. Indeed, I am satisfied that they will be found to be greater factors in deciding the usefulness or adaptability of animals for specific purposes than the generally accepted breed characteristics."

THE BOARD STALLS.

From the description given by Prof. Gowell of the Hoard cow stalls at Orono, the Farmer makes the following selection in answer to several queries from dairymen wishing to change the form of tie-up. Prof. Gowell says: "In reconstructing this barn last fall we attempted to secure some plan of stalls that would give the advantages of the one we already had, and would, at the same time, be free from its objectionable features. It was decided to adopt the leading features of the 'Hoard Stalls' and make such changes as seemed advisable to adapt it to our wants. The accompanying cut shows the plan and details of construction. The sleepers under the floor have no incline. The floor upon which the cows are placed is nine feet wide, and has an incline of two inches in the nine feet. This incline is secured by laying pieces of tapering furring that are nine feet long, and are three inches thick at one end, and one inch thick at the other end, upon the sleepers, and laying the flooring upon them, using one thickness of plank or two thicknesses of boards.

At the side of the platform is the manure trench which is 18 inches wide. The floor of this trench is made of one thickness of two-inch plank laid directly on the floor sleepers. Narrow strips of one-inch boards, for furring, are placed on the sleepers, from the manure trench to the outside sill of the barn, and are floored over with two-inch plank, covered with one-inch boards, breaking joints. When completed, this leaves the trench two inches deep. Our stalls vary from three feet and four inches to four feet in width; the wide ones being reserved for some of the larger animals. Three feet and six inches is about the right average width.

A convenient course to pursue in constructing the stalls is, first, to set the three-by-four-inch studs at the corners of the stalls next to the feed floor of the barn, and then to put in place the eight-inch plank, which is the bottom of the feed rack, and extend from post to post. The bottom of this plank should be 20 inches from the floor, and its back edge should be beveled to take the narrow strips of the feed rack which are nailed to it. The top or head rail, which is two by four inches, is set at an angle, the upper corner being five feet and ten inches from the floor, and 28 inches from the front end of the stalls.

The partitions are a single thickness of one-inch boards nailed to the three-by-four studs at the front end of the stalls, and extending back; the ends being cut on an angle to fit into the groove in the inclining three-by-four header which is nailed to the head rail at one end and the floor at the other end.

This header piece has its corners chamfered and the one-inch-deep groove is in the four-inch side. The mangle strips are one by two inches in size, and

are placed four inches apart. The head rail is held in place by strips nailed to it and the front studs.

The top floor of the stalls is put down last, and is of one-inch boards running up and down the stalls. Pieces of three-by-four joist are placed on edge across the stalls near the ends of the partition, and fastened to the floor by two large wire nails. The upper corners of these pieces are chamfered. They are to be put just in front of, and close to the hind feet of the animal when it stands up in the stall with its head close to the slats of the feed rack.

The lower door in front, through which grain and silage are fed, is 14 inches wide, and its lower edge is 12 inches from the floor. The upper door is 12 inches wide, and the space between it and the lower door is 20 inches. The doors are hinged at the upper edges and shut down, to avoid the crowding at the hinges, caused by chaff, etc., when hung to shut up. The animals are fastened by leather head halters, the ropes of

which are two and one-half feet long, to the ring placed in the edge of the bottom of the feed rack.

The floor in the front part of the stall is swept clean before feeding the grain and silage, which are put directly on the floor. The animal steps forward, putting its hind feet in front of the cross piece, and lifts its head, is forced to step back over the cross piece in order to stand comfortably. The animal rarely voids while standing forward eating from the floor, but does so while standing back. When they are first put into the stalls they will sometimes lie down on the cross pieces, but they get up very quickly and seek more comfortable positions by stepping in front of the bar and lying there, where there is plenty of room and comfort.

After the cows had been in their quarters about a month and had become accustomed to lying forward in the stalls, the cross pieces were removed.

Our experience, thus far, with these stalls, is very satisfactory. The animals have much freedom, as they step back and forth the length of their halters, and are able to reach back and lap themselves, much to their satisfaction. They require but little carding and brushing to keep them clean, and while lying down they are safe from the injuries liable to be inflicted by their over-crowding mates."

Straining and setting the milk in small vessels causes a considerable waste of time, labor and fat.

ROSE AND STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.

Those who neglected the Rose and Strawberry Festival at City Hall, Augusta, last week, are the losers. It was a rich display of fruit and flowers, reflecting credit on the officers of the Society.

Professor Elijah Cook of Vassalboro was the first speaker of the afternoon, his subject being "Our First Field Meeting. What We Saw and What We Want to Remember." He paid a great compliment, in the first place, to the State, for having so fine an institution and so efficient a superintendent for its insane, as that visited, Tuesday afternoon, by the society; also to the horticulturist, W. H. Allen, for the manner in which the grounds were kept. Then followed a brief review of the afternoon passed on the grounds of the Insane Hospital, pointing out the manner in which the grounds and plants, as well as the decorations were arranged, bringing to the minds of many of those who visited the place, points that had entirely escaped their notice.

But if you can have about one quarter of an acre of land,

Lay It Out in Squares,

with a border three feet wide all around, plant the centre of each square with corn, beans, cucumbers, or any other vegetable desired. In the borders plant many kinds, both annuals, biennials, and perennials. The perennials are all that do well in our Maine climate are the varieties of peonies, beginning with the earliest, the fennel leaved, then the tree peony, the old-fashioned red and the late ones, both double and single, of many shades of red, pink, yellow, white and purple, all very showy and beautiful. A lovely edging for a bed is the polyanthus, both red and yellow; it blossoms very early, and the leaves are pretty after blossoming. The ragged robin is a good plant, also the red and white lychnis, plants of the same order, and the old-fashioned lychnis (London pride) the most perfect scarlet ever seen in flowers. The autumn phlox is very hardy and can be had in great varieties of colors.

The English Buttercup.

is as handsome as a yellow rose and makes a great show when it grows in a large clump. There is a great variety of spiraea, both white and red, some low growing ones and others quite large bushes, but all very desirable in a garden. Sweet peas must have a place in all gardens; plant them in double rows with tall, strong brush to climb on, which they like better than wire netting, which some people use; have the earth rich and plant on each side a row of mangel wurzel beets about six inches from the peas; the beets keep the ground moist so the peas do not dry up in the hottest weather. Do not let the peas go to seed and they will blossom until the heavy frosts kill everything in the garden. Of course, every one wants a few rose bushes. There are a few hardy ones which will live with a little protection in winter, and pruning and dressing in the spring. As soon as the leaves appear it is a perpetual war to keep the insects in subjection; we not only have to wash them with some insecticide but crush the insects with thumb and finger which is not very agreeable. We have a kerosene emulsion made by taking a large spoonful of oil, two spoonfuls of milk and shake well together, put in a cupful of soft soap, mix well and put in one gallon of water and wash the under part of the leaves several times before the plant blossoms. There is one curious fact about the rose not generally known; the honey bee has nothing to do with it. The only bee I have ever seen on the rose bush is the carpenter bee which cuts out pieces from the green leaf to make its cells. Some poets write of the bee gathering honey from the rose, but that only shows that

The Poets Do Not Know Everything about roses or bees, they only know that the roses are fragrant and beautiful, and that the bees gather honey from flowers. Had the poets said poppies instead of roses it would have been better, for when the poppies are in blossom the air is full of the music of the bees, and there is not room on the largest poppy for the multitude of bees that gather around it. The columbine is a good plant there is such a variety of color, and every year they mix so one gets new varieties. The garden heliotrope is a sweet and pretty flower, and looks well in a nosegay with any other flower one may use. Be sure to have some lilies of the valley; they will grow well in some shady place where other plants will not blossom. The annual salpiglossis is a very beautiful flower, rich in coloring as a gloriole, and some of them look like orchids. For blue flowers, which color is rare, have myosotis or forget-me-not, and the varieties of larkspur, both perennial and annual. Every one can get from our florists a catalogue of seeds and of course most people know what annuals to plant; asters, marigolds, pansies, stock, candytuft, zinnias and a multitude of others too numerous to mention. To keep everything growing a good way is to have a barrel in some convenient place, put in it a bushel of fresh cow manure, fill it with water, and use twice a week a weak solution of it. I will close by mentioning a few shrubs. The white lilac and Persian lilac, the large flowering syringa, the Japanese snowball and deutzia gracilis, should be in every large garden, also the weigela, pink and white, and the garden hydrangea; all these are hardy and very desirable. Also some varieties of lilies; the white day lily, the lemon lily, white garden lily and some of the Japanese lilies. A few vines are needed to complete the garden; of these the best are honeysuckles, some varieties of clematis, wistaria and akela.

One thing more I want to say: cut your flowers freely; give them to the sick, especially the poor sick; send them to your friends and decorate your house with them. The more you pick them the more you will have.

Prof. Munson and L. J. Shepherd, both of the Maine Experiment Station, were the judges, and the following are the awards made:

Best quart of industry gooseberries—D. H. Knowlton of Farmington, 1st; Best quart of Smith's Improved gooseberries—D. H. Knowlton, Farmington, 1st; Best exhibition of pansies—Miss Belle Wallin of Brewer, 1st; Miss Anna Eaton, Augusta, 2d.

Vase roses—Burt S. Young, Augusta, 1st; Mrs. George M. Twichell, Augusta, 2d; Basket roses—Miss Anna A. Eaton, 1st; Vase of flowers—Miss Anna Eaton, 1st; Edw. C. Pope, 2d.

Sweet peas—Miss Anna Eaton, 1st; Collection roses—Burt S. Young, 1st; Mrs. B. T. Townsend, Freeport, 2d; Foliage plant—Mrs. B. T. Townsend, 1st.

Besides these prizes, there were special prizes and special mention given to the carnation pinks of Miss Lucy Chandler, the Freeport florist; the Maine Experiment Station for its display of flowers and vegetables; the vase of roses of Mrs. H. A. Hall of Brewer, and the strawberries of the Insane Hospital.

Strawberries.

Haverland—Frank W. Jewett of Hallowell, 1st; Bismarck—F. W. Jewett, 1st; Sharples—E. F. Churchill of Hallowell, 1st; F. W. Jewett, 2d; Brandywine—E. F. Churchill, 1st; Rutabaga—E. F. Churchill, 1st; Crescent Seedling—E. F. Churchill, 1st; Marshall—Burt S. Young, 1st; Greenleaf—C. S. Pope, Manchester, 1st; Burt S. Young, 2d; Parker Earle, C. S. Pope, 1st; Burt S. Young, 2d; Seiler Wood—C. S. Pope, 1st; Clyde—C. S. Pope, 1st; Warfield—C. S. Pope, 1st.

The State Pomological Society can do the State no better service than to increase these local exhibitions and exercises, thus stimulating interest in fruits and flowers.

DAIRY GLOBULES.

Sweet cream just removed from the milk does not churn as rapidly as older cream that has been properly ripened.

If the cream is churned very slowly there is liable to be so little friction that the butter will not come.

Milk is more sensitive in receiving and tenacious in holding impurities than water, and they often pass off into the milk pail.

See that the cream is at the right temperature when put into the churn. If too warm it is apt to cause trouble, and if it is too cold it is certain to.

We can not take too good care of our young stock, for out of this nursery come our dairies and our good beef cattle. Calves can be trained to be "good" as well as can children.

All feed which a cow can be induced to eat that she will turn into milk is clear profit, but all that she consumes that is necessary to maintain her physical condition is outlay.

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...speak as they pass by. They had
calling out. The young lady did not
him that she would be a sister to
—not much. She said: "Jonathan,
have found thee out to be an arch-
deceiver, and I am sure of thee for a

st Have a Stove?

THEN BUY A

CLARION

A Hundred Reasons Why, which we can't tell you here.

st let us write you if your dealer tries to sell you something else.

that is "Just as Good."

BISHOP CO. BANCOR, MAINE.

ed U. S. Cream Separators

of separation take the lead.

of design and ease of operation excel

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Sizes, \$75.00 to \$625.00.

MACHINE CO., Bellows Falls, Vt.

OUR MONEY!

ays discourteous, for while we

we offer you "value received"

line of "Farm Implements,"

land. We want to mention

The

eed Drill and Wheel Hoe,

eed Drill, Hoe Cultivator, Rake

Harrow, with "Riding Attach-

o-horse Hay Tedders.

atalogue, and see for yourself

AND HAY FIELD.

Y, PORTLAND, ME.

TEAMBOAT CO.

OSTON!

SERVICE

A COLLINS will leave Augusta at 1.30 P. M.

SACADAHOC

Richmond 4.20, Bath 6 and Poplin Beach

TURNING—Leave Lincoln's Wharf, Boston,

for landings on Kennebec river, arriving at

boat for Boothbay and adjacent islands, and

well and Gardiner \$1.75, round trip, \$3.00;

Boston and Poplin Beach \$1.25,

Boothbay Harbor \$1.50, round trip \$2.50.

JAS. B. DRAKE, Pass.

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VSPAPER that is re-

in its news, not biased

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A Standard Sewing Machine or

Solid Gold Watch, made by the

best manufacturers in America,

complete and warranted in every

respect. Write the Farmer for

particulars. Given to any one

obtaining a club.

ONE SOLDIER DEAD.

A fair young mother calmly read,

While one hand rocked the cradle bed

Wherein her first-born slept away

The twilight of a summer day.

She carelessly the paper turned

Till "Latest War News" she discerned:

"Our loss was small," dispatches said—

"A dragoon, and one soldier dead."

They troubled not to give his name,

Or give the troops from which he came;

Care if there be one private less?

Only a soldier lying there,

Only a soldier upon his sunny hair,

With no kind friend to raise his head

Or treasure the last words he said.

Oh, happy mother, do you know

That not so many years ago

That soldier was a baby, too,

With face as sweet and eyes as blue

As those within your cradle there,

And knew a mother's tender care,

Who now must sit alone and weep

Because he wakes not from his sleep!

And other thousands also said:

"I was a private soldier dead,"

Without a passing thought that he

Might one of nature's nobles be,

Or that the words that line contained

Would reach a life that yet remained;

His mother waits for him in vain,

For he, her only child, is slain.

WASHINGTON SUMMER GOODS.

It seems natural for women to admire

the soft, delicate fabrics that are so suit-

able for summer wear. But the feeling

of satisfaction with which she views the

dainty garments when they are first

made, is very different from the feeling

she entertains toward them after a few

days to the laundry. Careless washing

will surely fade the colors, making them

look old and ugly in a short time. Peo-

ple of moderate means can scarcely af-

ford to send such garments to the pro-

fessional cleaners, and the work may be

so nicely done at home, that it is not

necessary.

If you wish to launder organdies,

delicates, and fine printed muslins, heat

soft water until it is a little warmer than

new milk; dissolve a little powdered

borax in it, and enough good soap to

make a suds. The borax softens the

water and helps to clean the fabric with-

out injuring the delicate colors.

Let the clothes soak ten minutes, then

soak lightly until clean, using two suds if

necessary. Rinse through two waters,

having a little bluing in the second if

the material has a clear white ground;

then dip in a thin, boiled starch, rub-

bing it well into the fabric. Keep a bot-

tle of strong borax solution in a con-

venient place in the laundry, and add a

little of this to the starch when it is

made. It will give the goods a very

smooth, pretty finish when it is ironed,

and keeps the irons from sticking. A

little saffron tint added to the starch im-

parts a creamy tint, and coffee gives a

pale ecru shade. Colored goods should

be dried in the shade, as the sunshine on

the wet goods is apt to fade it. When

laundered in this way, the beauty of

gagham, lawns, and percales will be

preserved until the materials are worn

out.—E. J. C.

OUR INFLUENCE.

BY F. M. HOWARD.

A calm and holy quiet rests upon the

people in the country and many are

leaving their homes in the city to enjoy

the blessed boon of rest. It is a time

for thought, reflection and communion

with Him that created all the beauties

of Nature. Artists visit the lovely vales

of Conway and make a feeble effort to

portray upon canvas a semblance of the

beauty that surrounds them on all sides,

but I think they must sigh with a trans-

port of pain and regard their work as

inferior, and think that the inexpressible

feeling of art that absorbs their very

being can only be brought out and per-

fected in that other world.

Indeed artists, ministers, and many

others that come into the country to

spend their vacations, whose mind and

heart are in harmony with Nature, have

more of an influence upon people in gen-

eral. Aspiring souls occupying different

positions in life will be benefited by pure

and elevating conversation. All rest

and to work would cause stagnation of

business. At these summer resorts

where there is so much refinement and

culture there must be working class;

they are not necessarily slaves either to

must they be branded like Cain, no! for

work is honorable and though they may

be looked upon with contempt by the

laughing it can make no difference to

the individual who has a purpose in

view. There are noble, whole-souled

people that number among the working

class. Often they prove desirable ac-

quaintances simply from the fact that by

their own efforts they have conquered

the obstacles that obstructed their path-

way. They were sympathetic because,

having passed through the different

vicissitudes of life and experienced like

feelings, there was a better understand-

ing of human nature.

TESTED RECIPES.

Strawberry Short Cake.

One pint flour, with one teaspoonful

cream tartar sifted in, 1 egg, 2 even

tablespoons sugar, butter, size of

half an egg; beat butter, sugar and egg

together, stir the flour into the flour and

add a cup of milk with half a teaspoon-

ful of soda dissolved in it; bake in a

sheet. When taken from the oven split

spread with butter and a layer of

strawberries and sugar. This is very

fine.

The cashier of one of the American

banks was paying marked attention to

a young lady of his town a short time

ago, but now it is noticed that they

never speak as they pass by. They had

fallen out. The young lady did not

tell him that she would be a sister to

him—much. She said: "Jonathan,

I have found thee out to be an arch-

trickster, and I am done of these for all

OPEN LETTERS FROM

Jennie E. Green and Mrs. Harry

Hardy.

JENNIE E. GREEN, Denmark, Iowa,

writes to Mrs. Pinkham:

"I had been sick at my monthly

period for several years, and tried

almost everything I ever heard of, but

without any benefit. Was troubled

with backache, headache, pains in the

shoulders and dizziness. Through my

mother I was induced to try Lydia E.

Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it

has done me so much good. I am

now sound and well."

Mrs. HARRY HARDY, Riverside, Iowa,

writes to Mrs. Pinkham the story of

her struggle with serious ovarian trou-

ble, and the benefit she received from

the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vege-

table Compound. This is her letter:

"How thankful I am that I took

your medicine. I was troubled for

two years with inflammation of the

womb and ovaries, womb was also very

low. I was in constant misery. I had

heart trouble, was short of breath and

could not walk five blocks without

life. Suffered very much with my

back, had headache all the time, was

nervous, menstruations were irregular

and painful, had a bad discharge and

was troubled with bloating. I was a

perfect wreck. Had doctored and

taken local treatments, but still was no

better. I was advised by one of my

neighbors to write to you. I have now

finished the second bottle of Mrs. Pink-

ham's Vegetable Compound, and am

better in every way. I am able to do

all my own work and can walk nearly

a mile without fatigue; something I

had not been able to do for over two

years. Your medicine has done me

more good than all the doctors."

time to come. I want you in the future

to be as a perfect stranger to me—in

fact, to treat me as if we never knew

each other, and never met." A few

days ago the lady received a cheque for

a considerable amount, and when she

presented it at the bank for payment the

before mentioned cashier appeared at

the window. He examined the check

very carefully, and returning it to the

lady said: "It is the custom of this bank

that strangers must be identified. You

will require to get some reliable busi-

ness man to identify you." The young lady

had to tramp around a quarter of a mile

before she secured an identifier and re-

ceived her money.—The Sanitarian.

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

The following, which appeared in a

Detroit paper, is one of the most touch-

ing incidents to be met with:

"There is a family in this city who are

dependent, at this moment, upon a little

child for all the present sunshine of their

lives. A few weeks ago the young wife

and mother was stricken down to die.

The question arose among them who

would tell her. Not the doctor! Not the

aged mother, who was to be left

childless and alone. Not the young hus-

band who was walking the floor with

clenched hands and rebellious heart.

Not—there was only one other, and at

this moment he looked up from the book

he had been playing with, unnoticed by

them all, and asked gravely:

"Is mamma told to die?"

Then, without waiting for an answer,

he sped from the room and upstairs as

fast as his little feet would carry him.

Friends and neighbors were watching by

the sick woman. They wonderingly

noticed the pale face of the child as he

climbed on the bed and laid his small

hand on his mother's pillow.

"Mamma," he asked, in sweet, care-

ssing tones, "is you 'frail to die?"

The mother looked at him with swift

intelligence. Perhaps she had been

thinking of this.

"Who—told—you—Charlie?" she

asked faintly.

"Doctor, an' papa, and gamma—every-

body," he whispered. "Mamma, dear

little mamma, don't be 'frail to die, 'll

you?"

"No, Charlie," said the young mother,

after one supreme pang of grief; "no,

mamma won't be afraid!"

"Just about your eyes in 'e dark,

mamma, teep they my hand—an', an'

when you open 'em, mamma, it'll be all

light there."

Maine Farmer.

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Mr. T. R. REED is now calling upon our subscribers in Somerset county.
Mr. J. W. FOTTELE is now calling upon our subscribers in Washington county.

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Map of the World and the United States.
This is a Rand, McNally & Co.'s absolutely correct, up-to-date, 1898 edition of wall map size, 5 1/2 x 4 feet, printed in colors, the world on one side and the United States on the reverse side. (Selling price for map alone \$2.50.)

New York World, Tri-Weekly.
104 numbers of this metropolitan publication for only 50c above the regular price of the Farmer one year in advance.

Sample Copy sent on application.
Try the Maine Farmer for one month.

Northern Franklin county reports a light frost, Monday morning, but no damage done.

The world is gaining rapid insight into the qualities of American citizenship and the result will be more of reverence for the flag and the Nation.

It will be a wonderful story which the future historian of America will tell of two great naval engagements in which two fleets of the enemy were entirely destroyed, while the Americans lost only one man and not a single vessel.

Telephone, telegraph and express companies, which have paid enormous dividends, cannot throw the one-cent-a-package tax on to the shipper without inviting opposition which will seriously restrict privileges in future years.

Never was a hay crop secured in Maine in better condition than this year. Quantity and quality will be found stowed away on the mows of farmers' barns, who have improved the past week.

If the politicians had been as anxious to provide avenues for increasing business as to promote the friend of every State and congressional official to a higher office and larger salary the President would not be hampered as he is to-day.

Spain lost at Manila vessels worth \$5,000,000. At Santiago she lost vessels worth \$13,000,000. The fleet under Admiral Camara has gone home, because it really consists of only two war vessels, the Pelayo and the Carlos V., and therefore could not cope with Admiral Dewey after the arrival of American reinforcements.

The summer resort bureau, general ticket offices and inquiry offices at central stations are sending daily for copies of the Maine Farmer Summer Home Album, declaring it "the best and only advertisement of rural places in Maine to be obtained." May it be the means of bringing many to these comfortable homes.

The annexation of Hawaii is a settled fact, the vote of the Senate standing 42 to 21. President McKinley at once signed the act, and a Maine man, Hon. Harold Sewall, will hoist the stars and stripes over the new territory on the arrival of the commission, sent by the President, to complete the details with President Dole.

Something too often forgotten, but to be remembered as we clamor for war, is that pay day follows close on the heels of spending, and a long-term, low-rate loan is only a makeshift. The present generation will not see the debt of this war wiped out by a territorialism made with Spain upon a territorial basis. Patriotism is all right, but it is likely to ebb as war taxes increase.

If the voters of Maine should look up the items of increased expense attending the Australian ballot system and put the total with that of citizens disfranchised for petty technicalities they would make such a demand for a return to the old system that the legislature would not hesitate about acting. Good in theory it is a farce and a failure in practice.

The value of an advertisement in the Maine Farmer has never been so freely recognized as during the present season. It is not wholly pleasant for a publisher to receive orders to discontinue an ad., but when the assurance is given that, through an ad. in the Farmer, every machine is sold and orders are beyond power to fill, there is the satisfaction following full service rendered. The Maine Farmer is the advertising medium which pays.

No record of heroism will stand out more boldly than that shown by Hobson and his men, lying flat on the deck of the Merrimac as she was sinking; never moving, as the storm of shell from the forts swept over them—remains on deck until the catamaran floated, braving danger with the utmost steadiness and deliberation. Hobson was not worried when shells were flying around his prison. Not he! He looked out and watched it as he would have done any scenic or panoramic effect.

It is utterly useless now to oppose the enlargement of territory. The day has gone, the territory is acquired, and the only thing now remaining is to preserve our republican ideals—our present conception of a free government. It is not the establishment of peace and order, of personal and political freedom, of equal suffrage and representative government in the Western or the Eastern Indies that will harm us, if only we are true to our principle of home rule, and allow the inhabitants of these outlying regions to govern themselves free from molestation by the military despots of continental Europe.

If one asks for the cause of the decadence of Spain it may be summed up in the one word "ignorance." Illiteracy is the dry rot that for centuries been eating out the enterprise, the capacity and the unity of the Spanish people. Bull fights have claimed the affections of the populace as the coarse and brutal always do when the benign influence of mental culture is lost. The school houses of America have made this country capable of great things because the minds of the pupils have been trained by constant use to great great problems. Here in New England, the little red school house is our chief bulwark of defense to-day, as it has been our glory in all the past.

It is a pleasure to find one man, Principal Gordy of Hartford, urging upon the National Educational Ass'n at its great meeting in Washington the teaching of U. S. history in elementary schools. There is nothing that helps the young mind develop better or fits a growing pupil for later study and for any kind of life, business or professional, than an early beginning upon the history of his own country. It is a comparatively short time since they began to teach U. S. history in anything but the high schools but there has been a great advance since. Even more time could be devoted to it to-day, instead of pretending to start boys and girls of eight on Latin.

People who have subscribed for the loan are already wondering when they will get their bonds, and are asking when the interest on them will begin. These questions may be answered in a word. About Aug. 1, the bonds will begin to go out from the treasury in a flood, and by Sept. 1, the last of them will have been mailed, probably. Interest on subscriptions begins on the date when the money is received by the treasury. A check or draft is not money, but merely an order for cash. However, as quickly as it is collected by Uncle Sam the interest begins. On or about the first day of August every subscriber will receive a check for the interest due him up to Aug. 1, even if it be only a few cents. From that time on, of course, the interest will be paid quarterly by treasury check.

Under the revenue laws just passed the Government becomes a party to one of the grossest frauds which could be imagined, that of licensing adulterated breadstuffs. Twelve dollars per annum is a small sum for a corporation which is mixing unwholesome and injurious articles with the flour for daily use in the family. That there may be no doubt as to what is meant by "mixed flour" the act specifies that "mixed flour" shall be understood to mean the food product made from wheat mixed or blended, in whole or in part, with any other grain or any other material, or the manufactured product of any other grain or other material, than wheat." Here

we have what in effect is an authorization by the Government of the adulteration and counterfeiting of a food product; for to lay a tax upon adulterated flour is to recognize the legitimacy of the manufacture and sale of the same, and it is impossible for the Government to receive a revenue from an adulterated article, officially proclaimed to be such, without being a party to the deception and morally responsible for injury.

POLITICS IN MAINE.

The fact has already been noted that there is promise of a larger per cent. of agricultural workers in the next legislature of Maine than for many years. Because of this there is no cause for fear, and if the power be rightly used great good will follow in all our rural sections. At no time in our State history has there been a demand for wiser or more conservative legislation than to-day. It is always easy to criticize, to say what should be or might have been, but this is not our purpose. Evil creep in gradually because of the inactivity of individual voters and the first step should be to remedy this condition. It is at the root of all others and is as wide-spread as the boundaries of the State. With low prices, sharp competition, small margins and complications in producing, there is the greater necessity for economy on the part of all classes, and the watch dogs of the treasury must be alive to protect the individual taxpayer. The burdens of government fall on exposed property. Personal property is extremely volatile, and escapes. Wrong as this is the fact is to be admitted and no man should be so zealous to guard his interests as he whose holdings go yearly upon the assessors' books. State expenses are increasing, departments being added, machinery multiplied, and salaries not reduced. If all this is wise and necessary, it calls for loyal support. No man should go to his seat in the State House to condemn but to investigate. A wise expenditure is as necessary as rigid economy.

The present farcical position of the State upon the tarpon question and intense feeling of opposition against assuming that personal responsibility which alone can insure a just enforcement of the laws upon the statute books, should secure the repeal of the more obnoxious measures, those which render futile the enforcement of the general law. There is need of a critical weeding out of measures upon which the public has set the seal of condemnation, else wiser laws will always be rendered inoperative. Believe as one may in the justice or efficacy of any given section or portion, if public sentiment will not sustain its enforcement it had better be wiped out for it is an encumbrance upon the statute books and an injury to the State.

While opposed to what might be termed personal legislation, there will be demanded, this winter, a law to protect the State from the myriad hosts of insect pests and weeds which are spreading so rapidly. The fruit problem of the future must in some larger measure be controlled by legislation, and the weeds spreading so rapidly over field and hill, destructive by nature and injurious to stock, must be eradicated by the voice of the State expressed in legal enactment. The expenditures of the legislature of 1898 and 1899 must be along the line of conserving the best interests of the State rather than large appropriations for local interests.

A clear-cut distinction must be maintained between appropriations which seem to be, and those which actually are, necessary for the material prosperity of the State. An increased State tax may be demanded by virtue of war expenses, but the tax payers will scrutinize more closely than ever the items of general appropriations made, to see wherein economy is to be found. That a saving can be made without injury to any department there is no question; that this will be done must depend upon the watchful interest of the tax payers and the faithfulness of legislators.

Good men are being nominated but only the best should be elected. With parties the Maine Farmer has nothing to do but it will reserve the right to speak boldly and fearlessly upon the political questions which must be met by the voters of the State within the next few months.

ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS FOR STATE CERTIFICATES.

The Places at which examinations will be held Friday, August 28th, will be so arranged, as far as practicable, that every teacher taking the examination can leave home in the morning, take the examination in full, and return the evening of the same day. Public announcement of the places selected will be made in due season, and special notice thereof will be sent to all teachers registering before August 20th.

The Subjects in which teachers will be examined are Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography, English Grammar, U. S. History, Physiology and Hygiene, Elementary Science or Nature Studies, Civil Government, Theory and Practice of Teaching, and School Law.

The Certificates issued will be of four grades and of four periods of duration. Grade of certificate will be based on rank in examination, on facts stated in the Preliminary Examination report which must be filed in this department before August 20th by every teacher taking the examination, and on statements submitted by such persons as teachers give for references. Duration of certificates will be determined by actual teaching experience, minimum rank in examination, and certain facts given in the Preliminary Examination reports. The highest grade will authorize the holder to teach in any Free High or other public school for which employed; the other grades, to teach in any common school for which employed. Duration of certificates will be for life, or for five years, three years, or one year.

All actual or prospective teachers desiring to take this examination must register, on or before August 20th, by forwarding to this department complete Preliminary Examination reports, blanks for which will be sent on application.

W. W. STETSON.

State Superintendent of Public Schools.

HOBSON EXCHANGED.

The Spanish Admiral at Portsmouth, N. H. Santiago Bombarded.

The destruction of Cervera's fleet was followed by the demand for a complete surrender of the Spanish forces at Santiago. An armistice was asked for and granted, allowing time to confer with the Government at Madrid. Finally the surrender of Santiago was offered by the Spanish commander, Gen. Toral, but the conditions attached caused a prompt refusal of the offer by Gen. Shafter.

The negotiations, however, resulted in the extension of the armistice, until noon, Sunday. Failing to bring to terms, the bombardment commenced at four o'clock that afternoon, and continued two hours, being resumed again on Monday, since which time negotiations for surrender have been pending. The attempt to shell the city from the warships outside the harbor proved futile, only a few shells doing damage. Reports of the escape of the Spanish troops from Santiago have been current, but the latest, Wednesday, news is, that in reply to the second demand for an unconditional surrender, Gen. Toral referred to his refusal to accede to the American demand made, Sunday, and again reiterated his determination to resist.

Notwithstanding this, the American batteries did not open fire Tuesday morning, as it has been impossible to get all of Gen. Randolph's batteries in position. Torrents of rain fell, last night, drowning out the boys in the trenches and making the road also impassable. This may delay the batteries and siege guns.

The volunteers who are being hurried on to the front, are being located along the right center, in the positions which have been occupied by Gen. Lawton's division, while the latter has moved forward, extending our front until it touches the road at Calmaenes, over which Gen. Toral would have to retreat if he should now be foolishly enough to make the attempt.

The Cubans, under Gen. Garcia, took Calmaenes without opposition, Monday night, and have entrenchments on either side of the road. The Americans are now in position to strike the enemy on the left flank and roll it up, making the Spanish entrenchments north of the city untenable. Gen. Toral, realizing the weakness of this flank, has been busy during the truce in doubling the entrenchments and fixing his guns in the direction from which he is threatened.

Most of Gen. Randolph's guns will be located upon the heights in the center of Gen. Lawton's new position, where they command the road. Gen. Miles is now on the spot, and in full command, thus removing danger of loss by reason of the strained relations between different officials. Red tape and etiquette have cost us dollars and lives already, and the fine distinctions between ranking officers have caused needless delays. What the people are anxious for are results, not for honors, shrapnel straps or prize money.

The event of the week has been the exchange of Hobson and his men. His return to his ship, the flagship New York, Friday night, was marked by wild enthusiasm. It was not until he was safe once more on deck that the crew of the New York cheered, and then they broke into a wild yell which went up over and over again, until the men were hoarse. Numbers of the crew rushed forward on the quarter deck, and a great group of men struggled around the tail figure of the man who had dared so much.

Hobson sat once more among his messmates and told the story of his experiences, his marvelous escape and his imprisonment in Morro Castle, Santiago, watching the shells explode outside his cell, under a murderous fire.

"I did not miss the entrance to the harbor," he said, "as Ensign Powell, in the launch, supposed. I headed east until I got my bearings, and then made for it straight in. Then came the firing. It was a grand flashing out, first from one side of the harbor, and then from the other, from those guns on the hills, the Vizcaya lying inside the harbor, joining in.

Troops from Santiago had rushed down when the news of the Merrimac's coming was telegraphed and soldiers lined the foot of the cliffs, firing wildly across and killing each other with the cross fire. The Merrimac's steering gear broke as she got to Estrella Point. Only three of the torpedoes on her side exploded when I touched the button. A submarine mine caught her full amidships, hurling the water high in the air, and tearing a great rent in the Merrimac's side. Her stern ran upon Estrella Point. Chiefly owing to the work done by the mine, she began to slowly sink. At that time she was across the channel, but before she settled the tide drifted her around. We were all afloat, lying on the decks. Shells and bullets whistled around. Six-inch shells from the Vizcaya came tearing into the Merrimac, crashing into wood and iron, passing clear through, while the plunging shots from the fort broke through her decks.

"Not a man must move," I said, and it was only owing to the splendid discipline of the men that we were not killed as the shells rained over us, and minutes became hours of suspense. The men's mouths became parched, but we must lie there till daylight, I told them. Now and again, one or the other of the men, lying with his face glued to the deck and wondering whether the next shell would not come our way, would say, 'Hadn't we better drop off now, sir?' but I said, 'Wait till daylight.'

It would have been impossible to get the catamaran anywhere but on to the shore, where the soldiers stood shooting, and I hoped that by daylight we might be recognized and saved. The grand old Merrimac kept sinking, and I went forward and saw the damage done there, where nearly all the fire was directed. One man said that if I rose it would draw all the fire on the rest, so I lay motionless.

It was splendid, the way these men behaved. The fire of the soldiers, the batteries and the Vizcaya was awful. When the water came upon the Merrimac's deck, the catamaran floated amid the wreckage, but she was still made fast to the boom, and we caught hold of the edges and clung on, our heads only being above water.

A Spanish launch came toward the Merrimac. We agreed to capture her and run. Just as she came close the Spaniards saw us, and half a dozen marines jumped up and pointed their rifles at our heads, sticking out of the water.

"Is there any officer in that boat to receive a surrender of prisoners of war?" I shouted. An old man leaned out under the awning and waved his hand. It was Admiral Cervera. The marines lowered their rifles and we were helped into the launch. Then we were put in cells in Morro Castle. It was a grand sight a few days later to see the bombardment, the shells striking and bursting around El Morro. Then we were taken into Santiago.

Shafter's available force, after counting all reinforcements, and deducting the dead, sick and wounded, is 22,850 fighting men, according to military estimates. This is based on an estimate of 16,000 men in Gen. Shafter's original expedition and about 10,000 in various expeditions which have gone since then, making in all 26,000 men. Against these, however, must be deducted the casualties in the fighting thus far, and also the men confined in the hospital by sickness. The deduction is roughly estimated at 3,000, leaving about 23,000 men available, to-day, as the fighting force of the American army.

The reinforcements which have gone forward from time to time are summed up as follows: Gen. Duffield's brigade, about 2,300 men; recruits for regular army, 950; 1st Illinois, 950; 1st District of Columbia, 850; six light batteries United States artillery, 700; Gen. Garretson's brigade, 8th Ohio, 1,300; 6th Massachusetts, and 6th Illinois, 2,000. Gen. Shafter's fighting strength will be swelled to about 25,000 men by the close of the present week.

Admiral Cervera and 692 men of his squadron are now comfortably quartered at Kittery, where good food and beds have been provided by our government. The men were in rags, some of them being covered only with the fragments of a table cloth or a blanket, while others had on portions of what was once a uniform. When they landed some were so weak that they could not stand, and laid on the ground until stretchers were brought, and by the aid of their comrades, were carried to the main road where they were placed on the grass.

Here the rays of sunshine, and the cool refreshing breezes from across the Piscataqua seemed to strengthen them, and most of the exhausted ones were, a little later, able to follow the others to the place where they were mustered. Many of the prisoners had wounds that were still unhealed, and their heads and arms showed the effects of the terrible battle in which they fought.

The possibility of peace is being widely discussed in the Spanish newspapers. The conservative papers declare that Spain is prepared to accept peace, provided it implies only the loss of Cuba. But, they add, Spain would prefer war a la Pointe-rance if the United States claims Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands or an immense indemnity which would be impossible for Spain to pay.

Admiral Watson's fleet is expected to sail for Spain to-day to make attack there and destroy the remnant of the Spanish fleet under Camara.

All the Spanish ministers have handed their resignations to the premier, Senor Sagasta, who has explained the situation to the queen regent. The difficulty is that nobody is willing to accept the premiership. Marshal Martinez de Campos would accept it, but he does not command a majority in the chamber of deputies. While the military party urges war, a large proportion of the civil population is desirous of peace.

It is pointed out, however, that if the United States insists upon the cession of Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, the general feeling will be in favor of a continuation of hostilities, many Spaniards believing that the situation in Cuba will enable Spain to prolong the struggle for a long time.

The government issued, Monday, a loan of 500,000,000 pesetas in treasury bonds at 5 per cent., of which amount the Bank of Spain takes 300,000,000 pesetas. The officials of the Spanish embassy communicated to the press, Tuesday evening, a despatch from Madrid, declaring it came from an authentic source. It set forth in substance that, although Spain was "only fighting in order to maintain her right to repel unjust aggression," she will continue the struggle "until she obtains an honorable peace, whatever sacrifices may be necessary to attain this end."

Latest.

In spite of rumors to the contrary, it is believed that the flag of truce is still flying, and while our forces are actively strengthening their positions about Santiago, the Spanish authorities are debating peace measures.

A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.

The passengers on the big Cunarder, Catalonia had a most thrilling experience during her voyage. For several hours they passed through the awful ordeal of being in a vessel on fire at sea. The Catalonia had 250 cabin passengers on board and among these were Rev. Geo. W. Hinckley of Good Will Farm, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beers, Bangor, also a large school party bent on a European trip during the summer vacation. The trip was uneventful until Wednesday evening last when as the passengers were at dinner in the main saloon the awful cry of "Fire!" was heard. They rushed in consternation to the decks where smoke was seen pouring up from the afterhold. Many of the tourists rushed to their staterooms, secured their valuables, and ran back to the deck ready to take to the boats.

The captain and officers had hard work to quiet them; assuring them that there was no danger and that the fire would soon be stifled. Meanwhile the sailors had stretched coils of hose and were pouring tons of water into the hold, where the cargo of cotton was burning. All the men worked heroically and in an hour after the fire was discovered, part of the fire crew bravely volunteered to descend into the hold.

The men bound wet cloths about their faces, and in a short time bales of the now smouldering cotton were being hauled up to the deck.

The smoke all this time had been pouring up from the hold, each fresh volume adding to the horror of the passengers. When, however, the burning bales were hoisted up, their fears became quieted, and they watched the efforts of the firemen with something more akin to interest. It was several hours after the fire broke out that it was extinguished but as a matter of precaution a volume of water was poured into the hold.

Only a few of the passengers could be persuaded to retire that night, but when morning came they had nothing but praise for the gallant work of the officers and crew.

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.

The impetuous nature of the Spaniards may readily be seen in the touching scenes when the popular captain of the Colon, Admiral Cervera's vessel, parted with his men as they passed to their barracks at Kittery.

The crew of the Colon had landed with the rest of the prisoners and with them came Capt. Moreu, who assisted Col. Forney of the marine corps, in his labors as mustering officer and asked permission to say a few parting words to the men who had so nobly stood by him.

The request was readily granted, but Capt. Moreu instead of making a formal and eloquent address, walked up to the man at the head of it, and taking him warmly by the hand, tenderly kissed the grim sailor on the cheek.

When the men saw the action of the commander, they wept as if their hearts would break, and as the captain walked down the line shaking hands with each, and kissing each unbending cheek as if it had been that of the most beautiful senorita in Spain, each man threw his arms around his commander's neck and gave him a most hearty embrace.

As Capt. Moreu came to the Colon's marine guard, one of the men, the captain's orderly, in an outburst of grief, sprang from the ranks and threw his arms about his master's neck like a child.

When, finally, the captain reached the end of the line, he turned and in a voice shaken with emotion, said a few words of farewell to the crew. As he finished the half-clad men surrounded him, grasping his arms and legs, all trying for one last embrace.

WHAT SHALL THEY BE?

The Waterville Mail has frequently referred to the "old-fashioned" State Fair, making invidious comparisons with Brockton, Rochester, etc. It now declares that "the Bangor fair people were the first to discover that the crowds did not want agricultural fairs at Bangor, but a circus, and they at once profited by their discovery. There were immense crowds at the Bangor fair last fall but there was hardly anything on the grounds to indicate that the occasion was an agricultural fair. Now it appears that the officials of the Maine State Fair have waked up to the fact that Bangor was wise in her treatment of the situation last fall and at Lewiston this year there will be the same sort of sensational attractions that made the Bangor fair so successful last year. It is possible that the average farmer prefers to extend his knowledge of agricultural matters than giving his attention to them at the time of the fairs and would rather give himself up to be entertained by the novelties presented. We shall see."

The question of what our agricultural fairs shall be a serious one for the agriculturists of Maine to decide, and they are the ones to settle the question. Brockton and Rochester's private interests can put up pleasing and entertaining variety exhibitions and no one can complain. Do our agricultural societies desire to follow in this line?

More than this, it is true that the farmers of Maine "prefer to extend their agricultural knowledge" by watching high kickers and circus features, as indicated by the Mail? If the circus and midway open the door to "advancing agriculture and promoting mechanics" then the more of these we have the better. What are our fairs for anyway? Who will answer?

At the Maine sportsmen's outing at Kittery this week, Hon. L. T. Carleton delivered an interesting address upon the game laws and their operation, indicating legislation which would be demanded for the protection of forest, stream and lake interests.

Sunday was very generally observed as a day of thanksgiving over the glorious victories won and prayer for the speedy consummation of peace.

City News.

A large party from Augusta started, Monday, on the Maine sportsmen's excursion to Kittery.

Work on State street has commenced and a thorough job of macadamizing will be done.

Augusta is fast being deserted and the summer houses on lake and seashore are filling rapidly.

After a lingering illness, Mrs. Clara Patten, wife of Mr. Richard E. Goodwin of this city, died, Friday, July 8.

The citizens of Augusta are pleased to welcome their fellow townsman, Hon. E. C. Burleigh, and family, back for the congressional vacation.

Hon. F. J. C. Little is the candidate for referee under the new Bankrupt law, and his friends are in earnest for his appointment.

Read the announcement of increased service by the Kennebec Steamship line to and from Boston. Daily boats are a great convenience.

Augusta newspapers were not represented on the press excursion to Halifax, the printers being obliged to cling to their desks. No vacations this year for publishers.

Through a failure of the electric alarm system, the city had no warning of the burning of Packard's photographic gallery, on the east side, Tuesday morning.

The argument of Hon. J. W. Bradbury, before the State assessors, against what he considered an excessive valuation of wild land, was pronounced one of the clearest and strongest made by any pleader before that body.

If the illustrations in the bulletin just issued by the Board of Agriculture were taken from life, they might be a credit to the breeders, but surely not to the artist or the State printers. This feature might well have been omitted.

The passage of the National Bankrupt law will remove a very large share of business from the probate courts and materially reduce the salaries of the judges and registers of probate. This will not be cheering news to Judge Stevens or Register Newcomb.

With the permanent improvements being made on State street the citizens of Augusta should see to it that the electric trolley be moved to the center of the street allowing greater freedom from accidents by providing a driveway on either side.

Beginning next Monday the A. H. & G. Street Railway Co. will change their running time, reducing same fifteen minutes, leaving Gardiner and Augusta on the even hour and half hour and Hallowell at a quarter before and quarter after the hour. This change will be appreciated.

County News.

Surveying for the Fairfield and Benton Falls electric road has begun. The work will be rapidly pushed.

Warren, Me., Wednesday, July 14. At Cross Hill place, Wednesday, China wool. The price paid was 20 cents.

Two more cases of diptheria are reported at North Monmouth, both of malignant type. Every possible precaution against an epidemic is being taken.

Joseph Johnson's house, South Gardiner, was burned to the ground, Monday, the fire having caught from the chimney. Much of the furniture and the barn were saved. Uninsured.

Wide awake Kennebec farmers are already marketing their early potatoes. Mr. Charles Hammond, Sidney, brought in several bushels of very fine ones, Saturday, which were ready sale.

Rev. Robert R. Morson of Freedom, has accepted a call to the Winthrop Congregational church, and a council will be held to examine and install him to-day, Rev. J. S. Williamson preaching the sermon.

Lieutenant Winthrop S. Wood, adjutant of the Ninth U. S. cavalry, who was wounded in the recent battle near Santiago, was second son of Colonel M. Clay Wood, U. S. A., retired, and passed the earlier part of his boyhood in Winthrop.

Mr. A. J. Packard met with a serious accident at the pulp mill, South Gardiner, Saturday afternoon. He is employed at the mill as filer, and when the men returned from dinner, he was found

